

## Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EB-08 NSAE-00 USIE-00  
TRSE-00 EUR-12 DOE-11 ISO-00 SOE-02 SSO-00 /034 W  
-----080270 172243Z /75  
O 172221Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6541

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 05410

EXCON

JOINT OECD-EMBASSY MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: ESTC COCOM FR US  
SUBJECT: EXPORT OF CYRIL BATH STRETCH FORMING PRESS TO  
USSR IL 1081(A)

REF: (A) STATE 40611; (B) PARIS 4632; (C) STATE 28658

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL (B), FRENCH DEL ALLEX-LYOUNG  
INDICATED FEB. 14 THAT NO FRENCH RESPONSE RE NINE  
FRENCH STRETCH FORM PRESSES WOULD BE POSSIBLE BEFORE  
END OF NEXT WEEK. HE REMARKED AT THAT TIME THAT US HAD  
HAD THREE MONTHS TO STUDY LAST FRENCH RESPONSE TO  
THIS QUESTION AND THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WERE NOW SOME-  
WHAT SURPRISED AT THE URGENCY THE US WAS ATTACHING TO  
A FRENCH RESPONSE. AFTER RECEIPT REFTEL (A), US DEL  
CALLED ON FRENCH DEL TO INFORM HIM OF US INTENTIONS  
TO SUBMIT CASE PURSUANT REFTEL (A) AND TO ASCERTAIN  
WHETHER FRENCH WOULD IN FACT BE RESPONDING BY  
FEB. 21 MEETING. FRENCH DEL ANSWERED THAT  
A HIGH LEVEL INTERMINISTERIAL COMMISSION WILL BE  
MEETING SPECIFICALLY TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE ON MORNING  
OF FEB. 21 (I.E. AT THE SAME TIME AS COCOM MEETING).  
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HE STATED THAT A FRENCH RESPONSE WOULD BE FORTHCOMING  
SHORTLY AFTER THAT MEETING.

2. ALLEX ALSO SAID THAT ON THE BASIS OF EARLIER US  
APPROACHES (REFTEL C) HE HAD RAISED AT A VERY HIGH  
FOREIGN MINISTRY LEVEL POSSIBILITY OF US INTRODUCING  
ACB-LOIRE ISSUE IN FULL COMMITTEE. HIS AUTHORITIES

HAD REACTED STRONGLY TO SUCH A SUGGESTION, HE SAID, NOTING THAT THIS WOULD BE THE FIRST TIME THAT A MATTER OF THIS TYPE HAD BEEN RAISED IN THIS FASHION TO THE COMMITTEE. SUCH ISSUES, HE SAID, HAVE ALWAYS BEEN HANDLED ON A BILATERAL BASIS. INTRODUCING THIS MATTER IN THIS WAY TO THE COMMITTEE WOULD, HE ASSERTED, RISK CAUSING A SERIOUS DETERIORATION OF THE COMMITTEE'S ALREADY STRAINED ATMOSPHERE AND WOULD BE HARMFUL TO BOTH US AND FRENCH INTERESTS. HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD VIEW ANY US APPROACH IN THE COMMITTEE PRIOR TO A FRENCH RESPONSE TO LATEST US INQUIRY (REFTEL C) AS AN ATTEMPT BY THE UNITED STATES TO EXERT UNDUE PRESSURE ON THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT ON THIS ISSUE. SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD, HE SAID, BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO RESOLVING THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED. WHILE THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES UNDERSTOOD THE NEED FOR A RAPID RESPONSE (GIVEN THE INTERESTS OF THE AMERICAN FIRM INVOLVED), HE SAID, THEY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND WHY THE US AUTHORITIES WOULD NOT BE WILLING TO WAIT A FEW MORE

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-----080265 172244Z /75

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6542

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 05410

EXCON

DAYS FOR A FRENCH RESPONSE.

3. FRENCH REACTION OUTLINED ABOVE REINFORCES BOTH EMBASSY AND USDEL VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO SUBMIT EXCEPTION REQUEST PURSUANT TO REFTEL (A) AT COCOM MEETING FEBRUARY 21. EMBASSY FEELS THAT PROCEEDING WITH PROPOSED COCOM PRESENTATION WITHOUT GIVING FRENCH REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO RES-

POND TO LATEST APPROACH COULD CREATE TENSIONS WITH DANGER OF PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE AND EMBARRASSMENT ON EVE OF FRENCH ELECTIONS.

GIVEN STATED PRIMARY US OBJECTIVE OF CLARIFYING ISSUE AND US EARLIER STATED PREFERENCE FOR BILATERAL RESOLUTION, IF POSSIBLE, US DEL AND EMBASSY BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD AT LEAST WAIT UNTIL NEXT WEEK TO AFFORD FRENCH AUTHORITIES FAIR OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND AND AVOID CONFRONTATION IN COMMITTEE. PRECIPITIOUS SUBMISSION OF THIS REQUEST AND ACCOMPANYING ARGUMENTATION TO COCOM COULD WELL RESULT IN FRENCH DECISION TO STONEWALL ON ISSUE.

4. IN ANY EVENT, US DEL HAS NOT YET RECEIVED BLUE-PRINTS BEING AIRMAILED AND IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT EVEN IF CASE WERE SUBMITTED FEBRUARY 21 THAT ANY DELEGATIONS  
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WOULD HAVE RECEIVED THEIR COPY BY COCOM MEETING. FRENCH DEL HIMSELF WILL BE ABSENT FROM COCOM MEETING FEBRUARY 21 IN ORDER ATTEND INTERMINISTERIAL MEETING MENTIONED ABOVE.

5. UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE, USDEL PLANS TO TAKE NO FURTHER ACTION ON REFTEL (A) INSTRUCTION PENDING RECEIPT OF FRENCH RESPONSE. USDEL PLANNING CONTACT FRENCH DEL AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 21 RE OUTCOME OF INTER-MINISTERIAL MEETING AND WILL REPORT IMMEDIATELY.  
KATZ

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPORTS, STRATEGIC TRADE CONTROLS, IL 1081, PRESSES  
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**Draft Date:** 17 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**SAS ID:** 3560266  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EXPORT OF CYRIL BATH STRETCH FORMING PRESS TO USSR IL 1081(A)  
**TAGS:** ESTC, FR, US, COCOM  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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